FBIS DAILY REPORT

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INTERIOR MINISTER REFUTES COUP RUMORS

PA250030Y Quito Radio Cadena Nacional Ecuatoriana in Spanish 2345 GMT 24 Mar 78 PA

[Text] La Paz--Today, Friday, Interior Minister General Guillermo Jimenez Gallo denied rumors of an alleged coup d'etat against the armed forces government. The minister said that these rumors have been spread for the purpose of hindering the electoral process and asked the people not to believe them precisely because we are in the process of constitutionalizing the country. Bolivians have been called to vote on 9 July, but in the past few days rumors of all kinds have been circulating about the preparations of a subversive coup against the Banzer regime. Even a local radio station, basing its report on the opinion of a reliable source, asserted that [words indistinct].

URUGUAY WILL HANDLE CHILEAN AFFAIRS

PY241743Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1357 GMT 24 Mar 78 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 24 Mar--The Uruguayan Embassy in Bolivia will be in charge of Chilean affairs in that country, now that diplomatic relations with Chile are severed. It has already been reported that the Venezuelan Embassy in Santiago--which is also in charge of Mexican affairs since General Pinochet broke off relations with that country--will take care of Bolivia's affairs in Chile.

SOCIALIST LEADER DISCUSSES PLANS FOR LEFTIST ALLIANCE

PY240333Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 23 Mar 78 PY

[Excerpts] Socialist leader Marcelo Quiroga Santacruz said today to the press that his party will become a part of the leftist front which is made up of the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left, MNRI, and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR. Quiroga Santacruz said, however, that this front which is in formation may include other leftist groups. Quiroga did not mention those parties, but it is well known that he was referring to the Revolutionary Workers Party, POR, the Revolutionary Party of the Nationalist Left, PRIN, and the pro-Chinese Communist Party. Quiroga also denied that the Socialist Party he heads intends to form a front with the most radical leftist groups.

Marcelo Quiroga Santacruz, who was minister of mines under the presidency of Alfredo Ovando Candia and a harsh opponent of the current regime, said that until now former President Hernan Siles Suazo was not a presidential candidate. He denied that his party had made a decision on this matter. He believes that the presidential candidate will be named after negotiations to form a leftist front are finished. He also warned that there are two dangers in the task of forming an opposition front; one danger is that workers may be isolated and the other is that an agreement with the right may be made.

Siles Zuazo Candidacy Announced

PY251847Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1643 GMT 25 Mar 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 25 Mar--Four leftwing political parties have signed a document that establishes a popular unity alliance for the next elections, it was announced here today.

The candidate of this new political entity will be former President Hernan Siles Zuazo.

The National Revolutionary Movement of the Left, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, the Bolivian Communist Party, and the Socialist Party will make up the popular unity front.

Spokesmen for the signatories indicated that the signing of the document opens new perspectives in the national political struggle and that the doors to the rest of the popular parties remain open.

MNRI, MNR Will Not Ally

PY251731Y Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 25 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Hernan Siles Zuazo will not make any compromise with Victor Paz Estenssoro. There have been political commentaries saying that the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left, lead by Siles Zuazo, and Victor Paz Estenssoro's historic National Revolutionary Movement have had (?meetings). A MNRI communique says, however, that it will not form any alliance with Victor Paz Estenssoro.

The leftist front reportedly has two components: the Revolutionary Party of the Nationalist Left and the Revolutionary Workers Party.

COMMUNIST VANGUARD CALLS FOR REVOLUTIONARY FRONT

PY241620Y La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 19 Mar 78 p 27 PY

[Paid advertisement of Central Committee of Communist Vanguard of the Workers Revolutionary Party: "Political Action of the Special Conference of the Communist Vanguard of the Workers Revolutionary Party"]

[Excerpts] The Communist Vanguard of the Revolutionary Workers Party [VCPOR] calls on all Bolivians to form a revolutionary front capable of consistently carrying on the anti-imperialist struggle, thereby allowing the working class to carry out its leadership role in the Bolivian revolution. This anti-imperialist front will be an instrument of the revolutionary struggle in which the proletariat must, at any cost, maintain political independence--the autonomy of its political organization and the independence of its revolutionary program.

The anti-imperialist front must base its action on the experience and methods of the working class, in other words, the direct mobilization of the masses through its various forms of struggle. The front must take advantage of all legal guarantees in order to achieve its revolutionary objectives. At the same time we reject all agreements directed toward committing the working class to the bourgeoisie and with reformism. We also reject the adventure of coup d'etat because it does not represent the political interests or the organization of the people and the working class.

In view of the elections and the "democratization" of the country, the VCPOR has assumed the position that these forms and methods can be utilized in the inevitable revolutionary struggle.

If the struggle for the country's freedom, for the freedom of the exploited masses, is achieved through electoral struggle, congress or elections, the VCPOR will not renounce its right to use the legal guarantees in order to achieve its basic objective: that of organizing and guiding the workers as a leadership class of the revolutionary process, in order to create their own government--the worker-peasant government.

We point out that the current process of democratization and elections are not in themselves the solution for the country's basic problems (bakcwardness, dependency, etc). Bourgeois democracy and congresses, due to the rotting of international capitalism, have entered a critical process which does not insure even a balance of power for the bourgeoisie. In our country, precisely due to its backwardness, democracy and congress are nothing but methods and forms through which the existing leadership legalizes its hegemony and exploitation of the working masses. At present the military government, with the powerful means of the armed forces at its virtual disposal, has put into high gear a democratization plan characterized precisely by the systematic cutting off of the rights and guarantees of mine, agricultural and city workers. The imposition of a military candidate by Quemado Palace, the use of resources and means of a repressive system (troops in the mines, military-campesino pact and state political officials: prefects, deputy prefects, etc) and the use of the armed forces as a powerful antidemocratic political party, exposes the monstrous apparatus of fraud which has now been forced out into the open.

The VCPOR proposes to demonstrate to the workers that the current process and "democratic" system are not the solution for their problems. It rejects any type of reformist position which intends, through bourgeois legality, to reform the country. It also rejects the opportunism of the so-called "center-left" and the parties of the petty bourgeoisie which are willing to negotiate Bolivia's interests in exchange for a few seats in congress. It rejects the ultraleftism of the sectarian groups at work within the heart of the working class which, despite a burning ultrarevolutionary language, does not permit the working class to use every means of struggle and which allow themselves to be used by political factions foreign to their class interests.

The VCPOR proposes that the working class, the agricultural workers and the middle class of the cities organize themselves and fight through the anti-imperialist front, while taking part in the electoral process and the "democratization" process of the country with the objective of consolidating the positions and the guarantees which the working class has forced on the government and to stimulate the revolutionary struggle against imperialism. It proposes the strengthening of the anti-imperialist front on the basis of the dedicated support of the Bolivian Labor Central and other organizations of the masses in order to create, even during the electoral struggle and congress, a solid revolutionary opposition front against fascism and imperialism.

The anti-imperialist front at this time must become the organized channel of popular and revolutionary expression based on an anti-imperialist program which will allow it, if this is still possible, to send its own representatives to congress, in other words, worker and peasant candidates who will have been democratically elected by the labor and party grassroots elements of the front.

The VCPOR calls on all Bolivians to unite around worker organizations and the revolutionary program of the working class.

It charges that the current process is directed toward burying political ideas and the will of the country's majority through a legal system which is in fact maintained by the continuing ambitions of the current regime.

Long Live the anti-imperialist front!

Bolivia, 12 March 1978

[signed] Victor Sosa and Filemon Escobar

RIGHTS ASSEMBLY ACCUSES GOVERNMENT OF ANTIUNIONISM

PY240210Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 23 Mar 78 PY

[Text] The Bolivian Human Rights Permanent Assembly stated that the government seeks to ignore the political and union rights of the working class in the city of [name indistinct]. The assembly also charged the government with attacks and interference on the right to unionize.

Through a communique directed to workers in the mines, farms and cities, Luis Adolfo Siles Salinas, Anibal Aguilar Pernarrieta, (Hugo Perales), (Reinaldo Souter) and (Oscar Garcia Suarez) said that they will use habeas corpus to protect those workers whose rights have been violated.

The assembly also stated that there are many charges against former coordinators whose positions were abolished by government decree, but that despite this the coordinators continue to exert pressure on the workers and their families, particularly peasant workers.

With regard to human rights the document stated that attacks were made against several peasant congresses in Tapacamaya and Escoma, which in some cases ended in criminal legal actions, in which all concrete proofs were submitted.

It was also reported that many peasants have been jailed and fined by police officials simply because they did not have a special recommendation from, and we quote, "the military peasant bank," unquote.

The assembly reported that in La Paz the Labor Ministry [words indistinct] to sell 77 memorandums threatening the workers who were elected in recent union elections, including possible candidates to positions in the unions.

BRIEFS

CONTRACTS SIGNED--Representatives of the Japanese firms Nissho Iwai Co Ltd and Asahi Industry Co Ltd will arrive on Thursday in La Paz. These enterprises were awarded the bid to install an explosives factory. The plant will be operating by the second quarter of 1979. Through a decree the Armed Forces Development Corporation was authorized to sign the contracts for the supply of machinery, equipment and other tools and to form a joint corporation between the Japanese companies and the Mining Corporation of Bolivia. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 14 Mar 78 p 8 PY]

AZEREDO: CARTER TRIP CANNOT ALTER NUCLEAR POLICY

PY251923Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1733 GMT 25 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 25 Mar--Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira stated today that his country is willing to discuss Brazilian nuclear policy "without restrictions" with the United States, but that this policy will not be modified. Discussing relations between the two countries a few days before the arrival in Brasilia of President Jimmy Carter, the Brazilian foreign minister noted during an interview with the newspaper O GLOBO that Brazil is convinced of what is established in this policy and that "it is convinced that this nuclear policy is appropriate for the Western world." The foreign minister offered as proof of this the "understanding and support" given by Western Europe, with the exception of the Netherlands, whose reaction, he said, "is an isolated case." Azeredo added that the positions of Brazil and the United States in this regard "grew considerably closer" because "Brazil was able to resist pressure by establishing a more mature relationship and by forcing the United States to do the same."

The foreign minister noted that the manufacturing of nuclear weapons can be stopped through control but not through technology. He added: "No one can stop the proliferation of intellect; this is an illusion."

Regarding this same subject but quoting an official of the U.S. Embassy in Brasilia, JORNAL DO BRAZIL stated today that the U.S. Government has not discarded the possibility that Brazil will abandon the project for the construction of a nuclear fuel recycling plant provided for in the FRG-Brazilian agreement.

Discussing the human rights issue--another sensitive issue between Brazil and the United States--Azeredo stated: "We accept with serenity the fact that this is an issue of international cooperation and that this cooperation is important for the strengthening and promotion of these rights." He added: "What Brazil does not accept is that it be transformed into an instrument of domestic policy, to be applied discriminatively in accordance with its own interest. [sentence as received] Azeredo stressed in this connection that Brazil, contrary to what the Americans believe, exercises only a "rather insignificant influence" on other Latin American countries. He said: "We have no means to modify the domestic conditions in other countries. To believe this would be totally unreal. The Americans believe that we can have a decisive influence on our neighbors and that is absolutely false."

When answering a question about U.S. protectionism, the Brazilian minister said that there are certain signs which lead to the belief that the United States "is increasingly accepting the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade [GATT], thus approaching the general position of the signatory parties." Azeredo denied that Brazil leans toward Europe, to the detriment of its relations with the United States. He concluded: "We approach those who grant us the most advantages and it should be recognized that most of our cooperation in various fields, including that of transfer of technology, has come from Europe and Japan."

MORE PROBLEMS ARISE AT ANGRA NUCLEAR PLANT

PY241720Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 Mar 78 p 1 PY

[Text] A slight tilting of the turbogenerator building at the Angra 1 nuclear plant, in addition to other problems, is contributing to the uncertain timetable for the completion of the first Brazilian nuclear plant.

Cracks in the turbogenerator building--which have not yet been solved by Brazilian and foreign experts who are working to stabilize the building's foundations--are the result of a series of mistakes made during the first phase of the project, according to sources familiar with this type of work.

The turbogenerator building problems are being studied by U.S. technicians from the D'Appolinia company who have been hired by Westinghouse to solve the problem with the shifting foundation which, although involving no more than millimeters, is enough to cause disruptions in the timetable for the installation and testing of the equipment.

The construction of Angra 2 by the Germans is also running into difficulties because of the nature of the soil on which the plant is being built.

It has been reported that FRG Government circles in Bonn have recommended that the Kraftwerk Union (KWU), which sold two reactors to Brazil, demand guarantees that what has happened with Angra 1 will not happen at the Angra 2 building, where the reactors bought from the KWU are to be installed.

FIVE OF ELEVEN RELEASED BUT MAY BE TRIED

PY241935Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1745 GMT 24 Mar 78 PY

[Excerpts] Curitiba, 24 Mar--Court sources indicated today that 5 of the 11 people who were arrested in this southeastern Brazilian town and charged with attacking national security have been released by the federal police.

One of the released people, teacher Ana Lange said in a press conference that all of them had been well treated by the police while under arrest.

Lawyers indicated that they expect to obtain the release of the other six detainees within the next few hours but all of them face the prospect of being brought to trial for subversion.

AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS TO AFFECT TRADE BALANCE

PY241729Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 Mar 78 p 24 PY

[Excerpts] The drop in exportable surpluses of soybeans, the crop of rice and cotton sales abroad, decreased coffee prices on the international market and the need to import corn may negatively affect Brazil's trade balance by as much as $1.3 billion, responsible government sources revealed yesterday.

Regarding soybeans, corn and rice, sources estimated that the drop in revenue--at average 1977 international prices--will be about $500 million.

Furthermore, concerning corn, the government will not only lose export revenues but will have to spend about $130 million to import 1 million tons needed to meet internal demands. Wheat will also have to be imported: 4.2 million tons valued at about $500 million, $200 million more than last year. Purchases of meat will also have to be included as import expenditures.

A drop in revenues from coffee exports, valued at $2.8 billion last year, is also expected. Officially it is being estimated that this drop will be between $300 and $500 million.

LETELIER SUSPECT HAS NOT FLED, SAYS WIFE

PY252002Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1519 GMT 25 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 25 Mar--Michael Townley, who, according to U.S. authorities, is the key witness in the investigation of former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier's murder, has not fled and will give testimony in court. This statement was made by his wife in an interview published today.

The writer, Mariana Callejas was interviewed by the morning paper LA TERCERA DE LA HORA after Townley disappeared from his home 3 weeks ago and after he had been identified by a District of Columbia court as one of those involved in the case.

Through a legal request the court asked the Chilean Government to question Townley and army Capt Armando Fernandez Larios, who the court said had gone to the United States with Chilean official passports under false names a month before the crime was committed in Washington on 21 September 1976.

On Thursday the Interior Ministry asserted, however, that neither Townley nor Captain Fernandez Larios used the passports issued in the names of John Williams Rose and Alejandro Romeral Jara.

Townley's wife said: "I am not going to tell where he is. He is available. He has not fled. The officials have been told about this." She added that her husband has not appeared for a hearing because there is no court order. If there were one, she said, he would have appeared. She said that she did not know that the lawyer Alfredo Etcheberry, the legal representative for U.S. authorites in Chile, had made a formal official request that Townley and Fernandez Larios be called to testify. She said: "I did not know. When the judge calls him, of course he will present himself." Mrs Townley said that she did not remember if she had gone with her husband to the United States in August 1976. "There are always some blanks in the mind. I do not remember that trip," she said.

CODELCO PRESIDENT REPORTS ON COPPER RESERVES

PA261339Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1206 GMT 24 Mar 78 PA

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile 25 Mar (EFE)--Gen Orlando Urbina, executive president of the Chilean Copper Corporation (CODELCO), said here on Saturday that Chile has enough copper reserves to last for a century and a half. General Urbina added that at the present rate of exploitation known reserves would last for 90 years, without counting deposits at present considered uneconomical due to their low ore content.

BRIEFS

BRAZILIAN FINANCE MINISTRY OFFICIALS--Enrique de Carvalho, deputy secretary general of the Brazilian Finance Ministry, and his adviser (Sayao Pinheiro) left Santiago this morning after a visit to Chile to learn about the Chilean economy. They met President Augusto Pinochet, the finance and economy minister, prominent members of the private sector and university officials. Before leaving they stated that they would advise the Brazilian private sector about the suitability of investing in Chile. [Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 23 Mar 78 PY]

MORALES BERMUDEZ INTERVIEWED ON FOREIGN, DOMESTIC ISSUES

PA2415467 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 19 Mar 78 pp 6, 10 PA

[Interview with Peruvian President Division Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez Cerrutti on 9 March 1978 by Alberto Dines of Brazilian newspaper FOLHA DE SAO PAULO]

[Text] [Question] Mr President, I am a journalist who works in Brazil for an independent newspaper, and I am a little on the opposition side of things. Therefore, I do not usually have the chance to talk to presidents. This is the first time that I have talked to a president, and for this reason I am going to be very informal and not too political.

[Answer] The interview will be better that way. Before we begin, I would like us to more or less define the order of the main topics that you wish to discuss in this interview. Perhaps it would be a good idea to follow the order of your questionaire as you prefer. Would you like to discuss foreign policy topics first? There are two foreign policy topics here: One is connected with the Amazon Pact and the other with Bolivia's landlocked situation. They are topics connected with Peruvian foreign policy. The other topics that you mentioned in your list are domestic or Peruvian items. How would you prefer to do this? Shall we discuss the Peruvian topics first?

[Question] Let us begin first with the controversial issues, and let us leave for later the more subjective and broader topics. Regarding the Amazon Pact problem, in late March we will hold a meeting in Brasilia. I would like to know what Peru expects from the Amazon Pact meeting. What is Peru's role and viewpoint as a member of that pact?

[Answer] That is an important question within the framework of our projects in the foreign relations arena. I would like to answer first by reviewing briefly what is valuable for Peru and Brazil in this Amazon Pact project. In the first place, I must refer to my 1976 meeting with President Ernesto Geisel. That meeting was extremely pleasant for both of us, and it took place on the Amazon. It seems that by the time of that meeting in 1976, President Geisel had already conceived the basic idea of what is now known as the Amazon Pact project. For me that was an introduction to the problem. Later, there were a number of developments--in March 1977 Brazil proposed that the Amazon countries hold consultations aimed at formalizing on a multilateral basis the cooperation process initially launched on a bilateral level among the Amazon countries. From that time on, Peru has been participating in the Amazon Pact project. Another important thing happened later in connection with this--our foreign minister's visit. In mid-1977 Foreign Minister de la Puente visited Brasilia and a joint declaration signed by him and the Brazilian foreign minister was released. From that point on, since that joint declaration was released, Peru has endorsed the initiative to hold discussions aimed at drafting a system of multilateral cooperation in the Amazon region and at implementing it in a coordinated fashion.

It was thought then that such a project might contribute in a very effective way to the economic and social development of the Amazon territories. What is also very important is that it might contribute to the incorporation of the Amazon territories into their respective countries' economies.

In other words, we are already conceiving something quite interesting in this joint declaration between Peru and Brazil. It is also very important to note that from that time on, respect for the existing international treaties has been emphasized.

I mention this because Peru's stand regarding respect for treaties is clearly established within the context of Peru's foreign policy--not only in its historic aspects but in our government plan, the principles of our revolutionary process and our constitution as well. In some way this is being mentioned in the talks held to work out this interesting Amazon Pact project.

[Question] Do you believe that the pact meeting can somewhat smooth out or reconcile disagreements among the Amazon countries? Border differences exist. Do you believe that this meeting may somehow help improve the climate?

[Answer] Basically, I would say that the Peruvian Government regards the Amazon Pact project mainly as a process of cooperation and coordination of the national policies of each of these country's Amazon territories and that it sees as its objective the full incorporation of these territories into the national economies of the prospective signatories of the Amazon Pact. Therefore, this answers your question in a conceptual manner since, if that is in fact our concept of the project, we must believe that it can establish coordination in general.

[Question] And will it ease the tension?

[Answer] Precisely. It might even facilitate the very fulfillment of the treaties already signed. Regarding this, we might cite the Rio de Janeiro protocol, for instance.

[Question] Is Brazil one of its guarantors?

[Answer] That is right. Brazil is one of its guarantors. The Rio de Janeiro protocol very clearly establishes--I think in its sixth article--the navigation facilities that Ecuador is entitled to on the Amazon, which Peru is ready and willing to concede. I believe all these things are closely connected to this type of Amazon project. In other words, if this is dealt with intelligently and with an eye on the harmony which, I believe, is what our Latin American countries must look for, it can be highly favorable.

[Question] Still on the subject of harmony and inter-American policy, next year is the centennial of the War of the Pacific. Do you think that next year we will be able to have something that might truly dispel the latent climate of tension that still exists between Peru and Chile?

[Answer] That was not included among the topics you mentioned.

[Question] I think it was.

[Answer] No, it was not. But in the first place, let us not concern ourselves with Chile. Let us think about Peru's foreign policy. Your question is linked to some sort of ghost, we might even say to some sort of psychological war that has been waged abroad against Peru in connection with certain military purchases that we have had to make because of our need to protect our vast territory. We have clearly said: Our strategy is one of total defense. We have no thoughts about offensive wars to conquer another country. We believe peace should be sought in countries such as ours, which are faced with so many problems as a result of their underdevelopment. Our foreign policy regarding this has been clearly defined. We want and seek peace with everyone. Now, if it is the case of an event, such as the one we will be commemorating in 1979, well, we have to be consistent. That year will mark the centennial of a war which, undoubtedly, was unfortunate for Peru, a war which we remember with sadness. But it is not our nature to seek revenge.

As a result of this--and we have already discussed this at various levels with the Chilean authorities--we are trying to have a program on that date that will significantly reaffirm peace, which is what we all want. In other words, in this regard, there is a sufficient mutual understanding to hold certain activities aimed at reaffirming our desire for peace.

[Question] Do these events also include the Bolivian issue?

[Answer] Undoubtedly, because I am referring to the commemoration of the year 1879, which should commemorate peace. Of course, there was a war...but nobody wants war anymore. And if there are problems, well, let them be resolved by peaceful means; peace is what our underdeveloped peoples need. They need to resolve their problems by peaceful means. With this response, I am not specifically referring to the solution of Bolivia's landlocked situation. I am not referring to that. As you know, that is a process currently underway, and I believe it is one of the topics you mentioned in your list. We must separate 1979--which we hope and believe will be a year of peace--and any other peace symbols from the naturally more complex problem of Bolivia's landlocked situation. This problem is not dependent on Peru's will. Regarding that, I would like to go into our basic opinion of this issue, which is among the ones you mentioned.

In the first place, I must say that Bolivia's desire to have an outlet to the sea has been fully understood by Peru right from the beginning. This understanding has been made manifest in the course of various developments and through various international legal means. Among these--in order not to review all of them--the most recent one is the joint declaration signed by our respective foreign ministers when they met on 8 June 1977. On that occasion Peru ratified its understanding of and support for a solution to this problem. Now, if we want to refer--and I believe this is what is really important--to the process of negotiations that Bolivia and Chile began in 1975 in search of a solution, we must point out that Peru has at all times shown great willingness to hold honest and direct dialogs and has even held talks with Chile. These bilateral talks were held in 1976 and sought to reach the previous agreement mentioned in Article 1 of the supplementary protocol of the 1929 treaty. In our desire to hold dialogs our country went even farther by making what I believe is a very specific contribution in the form of a proposal we made in November 1976. For us, that proposal represented a response by our country to the Chilean Government's consultation of December 1976. According to that proposal, Peru accepts the eventual cession to Bolivia of a sovereign corridor north of the City of Arica, conditioning this acceptance to the creation of an area whose sovereignty would be shared by all three countries, the tripartite administration of the Port of Arica, and the creation of a focal point for economic development for the three countries.

We believe that that proposal truly conveys our advocacy of peace. This responsiveness truly represents a desire for peace, for permanent peace. For there may be other solutions that will not generate the permanent peace that Peru desires in the future. Furthermore, the proposed formula is very closely linked to our respective countries' development and integration. It is a known fact that the Chilean Government refused to consider this Peruvian proposal.

This is more or less the history of the problem. We also wish to stress that this Peruvian proposal rejected by the Chilean Government did not constitute for Peru--and it is important to underline this--a formula whose rigidity would not permit future talks or consultations on the subject. We made this proposal in all sincerity. We thought it would be feasible to negotiate it among the three countries. With it we showed our permanent advocacy of peace. We presidents later held very friendly talks during the visits we paid to the United States on the occasion of the signing of the Panama Canal treaty.

That event gave us presidents of Chile, Peru and Bolivia the chance to meet. That was in September last year. As a result of that presidential meeting, another meeting was later held at the foreign minister level. Well, those are more or less the events connected with this issue.

In summary, I would like to conclude my answer to your question by reiterating the fact that Peru still advocates peace in regard to this problem and still wishes to cooperate in settling Bolivia's sea outlet issue.

[Question] I wonder if we might not discuss Peru's domestic political affairs with respect to the Constituent Assembly elections. I have been here for 2 days and have found a climate of concern but not too much enthusiasm. The public has its doubts, not concerning the elections themselves but concerning their aftermath. Could you say something, Mr President, to placate, to create incentives, to generate enthusiasm?

[Answer] I would say that the lack of enthusiasm is natural keeping in mind that we have not had an election in Peru for a long time.

[Question] I do not remember.... I have no record of this.

[Answer] Therefore, we might think that we have come out of political inactivity into political activity. However, I would not say that there is any such lack of enthusiasm among the parties. Maybe you have met with some people who are not very much involved in politics. Yet, if you read the newspapers--and see that every day there is a rally, some in Lima, others in the provinces; that party leaders are traveling throughout Peru, meeting people in the squares, and so forth--you would see that there is relatively intense political activity connected with the upcoming election. Of course, not all people in Peru are involved in politics and that may be due to the political inactivity that I mentioned.

So, I repeat what I said during a recent television appearance that the Constituent Assembly is actually carrying out a double political role. Its immediate objective is to choose a new constitution for the country and its second objective is to break the political indifference of many years ago. It is also very important for political groups to organize and reorganize themselves not only with regard to the immediate objective but also for the purpose of the general elections in 1980. This is our open and sound approach to this process.

[Question] Some people are afraid of what might happen if an opposition party or coalition of parties wins the elections.

[Answer] In principle, we will have to uphold the results of the democratic elections. If the democratic election is clean, as I think it is since the government is not interfering and there is really an autonomous, independent electoral authority which is in charge of the process without interference from the military government, if the entire process is as clean and as democratic as possible, then one would have to accept its results. The results spell our democracy, I think, and we cannot interpret them in any other way.

[Question] The government is backed by a party, but what happens after the elections?

[Answer] The government does not have a party.

[Question] Yes, it has--the people.

[Answer] I repeat, the government does not have an organized party, and that is very important. Perhaps this too will contribute toward clean elections, because if we had a political party or influential group to support the government, one could think that the government was biased in its favor. However, there is absolutely no party that is linked to this government.

[Question] Do you think it is possible for the government to become connected with a party after the elections through electoral mediation [con la mediacion electoral]?

[Answer] We have emphasized that we have a single party, which is Peru. I am speaking about this government. We do not think that what you suggest will occur with the Constituent Assembly. I say this because the Constituent Assembly is a political process planned for 1980. The final objective of our political plan of government is the 1980 general elections. Therefore, this government's political independence will not change. It will not change.

[Question] However, the ideology of the Peruvian revolution must be promoted by a movement.

[Answer] Well, I think that is worthy of particular mention. I feel that a revolutionary process such as the one that Peru is experiencing has to gain momentum in the country. There are some people--and we respect them--who think the revolutionary process is bad; there are other people who identify with a substantial and important part of the revolutionary process; and there are still other people who totally identify with the process. However, the past years cannot have passed unnoticed in the country. This is not to say that we have not made mistakes, because our government plan, the one we are carrying out, is based on self-criticism. In other words, we are not saying that we have not made any mistakes. However, we do feel that this type of process must have gained some ground in the country.

[Question] Therefore, do you think that the peasants, businessmen and workers have to accept something even though they may hold contrary opinions? Do you think they have to accept the facts of the revolution?

[Answer] Undoubtedly, because there is bound to be a historic result that the government would be unable to manage directly since we do not have the means to do so. We are officers and our military corps is devoted to the conduct of its service mission, its military mission. It is not suited for political life.

[Question] I have been reading books about Peru's recent history, and I have noticed that there was some resentment, some animosity between the Aprista Party and the military officers. Do you think that there is agreement now or a possibility of reconciliation?

[Answer] Before giving a direct answer to the question, I will say that we have set a goal for ourselves, and we have repeated on many occasions, including on our recent television appearance, that our goal is national unity. We believe that one cannot build a country by dividing it. A country is built by uniting it. This does not mean that we should force all Peruvians to think in the same way or to belong to the same political groups. The important thing, as we have said before, is that political differences should not turn into a conflict that divides Peruvians. Our basic objective is unity, but unity does not require everyone to think alike. If by way of analogy we apply the goal of national unity to the family structure (a united family) consisting of the father, the mother and any number of children), we see that everyone in this circle does not think alike. Some children think one way; others think a different way. But on the birthday of the father or the mother, the entire family gathers together. They meet on such a day or at least on Christmas Day.

The family is united although all the children do not think alike. So, in the great family that is the fatherland, it should be the same. Where our national objectives--which are the future of our peoples--are concerned, we must be united, even if we disagree on ideas and on procedures. This is what national unity means.

There was an earlier stage in our history in which--because of those sometimes inexplicable political situations in the lives of peoples--there actually have been confrontations at certain times, opposition at other times and even certain internal struggles in our country between the armed forces and the Aprista Party. What we have sought to do, in line with our policy of national unity, is to end the hatred and the enmity, which are not constructive to Peruvian society. However, many political groups have taken this to mean that there are ties between the Aprista Party and the armed forces government. This is completely false. We have made no political commitment with the Aprista Party. What we have done is to work to avoid the hatred, the enmity which characterized one phase of our history. There is nothing more.

[Question] You have said on certain occasions that within the military institution there is a consensus, a process of consensus. Do you believe, Mr President, that this system will last until 1980, or will there be, within the military, a process of improvement or a ...?

[Answer] There is no reason for our method of leadership--I refer to the method of political leadership of this armed forces institutional government--to be changed in the relatively short time remaining for us to achieve the political goals which we have set for ourselves, which will culminate with the general elections in 1980. At this time there is no perceptible, no tangible reason to lead one to think that the political methodology which we are using may change.

[Question] Let's speak, for example, of a similar case. There is talk in Argentina now about a fourth member of the junta. I would therefore ask...

[Answer] That problem does not exist here, because the statute of the armed forces revolutionary government clearly defines responsibilities. It very clearly establishes the resporsibilities of the president of the republic. The statute says that the commanders in chief of the three services, who make up the revolutionary junta, choose the president of the republic. The statute gives the president of the republic the executive power. That is, the president of the republic holds and exercises executive power by authority of the statute of the revolution. The statute also says that the president, along with the revolutionary junta, has legislative functions within the Council of Ministers. Therefore, this is very clear. very well defined in our statute. I do not like to make comparisons with other countries, but the example which you presented does not apply. There is a little difference with regard to organization and political methodology, a little difference.

[Question] And now, to turn somewhat to the economic and social sphere, while still remaining in the political sphere, I have just seen a demonstration of municipal workers in front the the palace...

[Answer] Yes, they have been on strike for some days.

[Question] And there is a report of a hunger strike. What is the government's position with regard to these purely social demands?

[Answer] Well, the government's position is very clear. We avoid repressive action as much as possible. For example, you can see the people there shouting and carrying their placards. They have been doing this for 2 days. There are problems; we have been experiencing very delicate economic difficulties.

For example, those workers are on strike basically because of wage demands. In this difficult situation the government has sought to solve the wage problem, but it cannot do any more than it has done. The solution which the government has proposed to this specific problem has a limit and we have already enacted a legal provision granting better wages to those workers. We can do no more, because our economic situation does not permit it. We are now trying to make the workers understand this, but we are avoiding repressive action, as you have seen. They are staging their demonstrations; some policemen are at hand, but there are no clashes, there are no confrontations. We do not want that.

[Question] Was that the government's attitude during the last strike?

[Answer] It was the same attitude, the same political directive--avoid clashes, avoid injuries...

[Question] But understand social needs.

[Answer] Understand social needs and try to meet them as much as possible. But there are times when this is not possible. What are we to do if we reach our limit? We have a very large fiscal deficit at this time. To increase that fiscal deficit would be to increase inflation as well. To increase inflation means that these people who are making their claims will suffer more. These are things which the worker at times does not understand. We try to get them to understand.

[Question] To end th political discussion, do you believe, Mr President, that there is an antimilitary feeling among the public, possibly a desire for retribution?

[Answer] Well, in this government different people have occupied the presidency, the cabinet, the junta itself, and so on. There has been a turnover in membership, but it has always been the armed forces government. This has been the case since October, 1968. We have to realize--and this occurs in Peru, in Brazil, in capitalist countries, and everywhere--that every government is subject to wear and tear. I would therefore say that there is no antimilitary feeling. What happens is that there is simply a government which has been around for many years and has suffered natural erosion. This is one of the strongest reasons why the armed forces government has decided to retire, or rather, to retire with honor. We have governed the country since 1968, and we will continue to do so until the 1980 elections, which is a total of 12 years. If we speak of 6-year terms of government, which is the term set by the present constitution, it is as if a political party had governed for two terms. Any political party, my dear friend, which had governed Peru in this period of structural change and of world, and therefore national, economic crisis would have worn itself out. If we think intelligently, this is not antimilitary feeling. It is the erosion of a government which, in this case, was not formed by a political party but by the armed forces.

[Question] I believe that we can now enter the socioeconomic area, if you permit it, Mr President. There is very widespread discussion regarding Peru's national debt and the problems with the IMF. Do you believe that the IMF is trying to establish a new socioeconomic and political model in Peru, or isit a purely economic matter?

[Answer] No, I do not believe that. I have expressed my beliefs with regard to the IMF on several occasions. For example, I remember a meeting I held at the beginning of the year with all the ambassadors, including, of course, the ambassador from your country, Brazil. I told them the following, which is the truth: The IMF behaves the same way in Peru as in any other country.

The IMF is an organization which was born of World War II. It was established to regulate the monetary and financial affairs of member countries, but it was based on a model which corresponds to another world era. Thus, the criticism which should be made of the IMF is that it is an institution which history has left in the lurch. That is the problem, because the IMF is an organization which is completely out of touch with the social problems and the political events which have occurred in Peru. It does not take into account what has been accomplished in the area of agrarian reform, business reform, banking reforms, and so forth. It does not even consider all this.

[Question] It is a financial organization.

[Answer] Yes, it is. Therefore, what interests the IMF is Peru's financial problems. But one cannot deal with a country solely on the basis of its financial problems. There are other elements of a country's economy which must be taken into account. Therefore, the conflicts with the IMF have stemmed from this. While Peru and the Peruvian Government are dealing with Peruvian reality, which has specific characteristics, the IMF is not interested in Peruvian reality. It is interested in the fact that Peru has financial problems which must be solved, and nothing more. That is the cause of the IMF's problems with Portugal. This is why it had, and, I believe, still has, problems with Italy. It also has had financial problems with other countries. This is the real state of affairs.

[Question] Do you believe that if Peru does not yield to the IMF's demands, discontent will be created among the public and hamper the electoral campaign?

[Answer] The government has political goals which it is meeting and will continue to meet. In the first place, we are very firmly determined that no matter what economic solutions are devised--and we are working on them--we must reach our political goal. At no time have we, in the armed forces government--and this must be very clear--subordinated the attainment of our political goals--which are the Constituent Assembly and elections in 1980--to any economic solutions that we may reach in Peru in the intervening years. We are working toward such economic solutions. This means at the same time that we have set an economic goal based on a program of economic reorganization in the framework of our present situation without neglecting structural problems. There are structural imbalances within our economy in addition to the problems coming from abroad, namely the unfavorable prices of our exports at the present time, which are detrimental to the Peruvian economy. However, in addition to the external imbalances of prices and trading terms, there are certain structural flaws which we are trying to correct. That is our economic goal.

The two goals must run parallel to each other, we will be trying to improve our economy in the time remaining before 1980. At the same time we will be trying to meet our political goals. However, at no time must the political goals be subordinated to economic considerations, nor they be neglected. We are very much determined and we will continue to be so in this regard.

[Question] Do you believe that the IMF is sensitive to Peru's special situation, or does it continue to hold its conventional, orthodox attitude? Is there an improvement?

[Answer] I would have to say that one must recognize that there are two levels within the IMF. However, there is a single policy. Everyone knows this.

[Question] The conventional policy?

[Answer] The conventional [illegible], but we must realize that within the IMF there are two levels of officials: the [illegible]y technical officials, who are the negotiators (negotiating teams are made up of technicians), and other persons at a certain level who are well trained and very capable. These are the ones who are much more understanding with regard to the sociopolitical problems existing in a country. It is necessary to draw such a distinction.

[Question] Do you think that Peru's domestic debt increased because of the compensations paid to foreign firms or that the debt is a consequence of the international oil situation?

[Answer] I would say that the volume of Peru's foreign debt is based primarily on the problems of short-term debts. The short-term debt problems are also related to sociopolitical events. I want to make reference to the early years of the revolutionary process, when a major question was posed to the world. Then there were reactions and certain foreign threats to Peru's credit followed the nationalization of certain firms, thus leading to the need to contract short-term debts. This is essential. This is a weighty issue now because, as we have said, the total amount of Peru's $4.2 billion debt is very much in line with the country's economic potential. If we compare our debt with that of Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Chile and so forth, and if we could establish parameters for comparison, it would turn out that the total amount of the debt is not too large. Therefore, it is not a problem of size. The problem is the short period in which we must pay a large part of that debt. I have said several times that almost 50 percent of the $4.2 billion has to be paid within 2 or 3 years. It would be wonderful if we had repayment of that $4.2 billion split up over a 10-year period, for instance, with an amortization of $400 million per year. What problem would Peru have in paying $400 million a year? No problem.

[Question] Peru has not considered a moratorium?

[Answer] We are now in the process of refinancing the debt.

[Question] With all creditors?

[Answer] With all creditors.

[Question] There is talk in international centers of a common front of indebted nations to apply pressure against the creditor nations.

[Answer] I would say this common front is a reasonable idea. It is a thesis that we have always held. And it is a thesis that our foreign minister is maintaining in Geneva right now; that is, the developed countries should understand that the debt of the underdeveloped countries is closely linked to the way in which the international economic structure operates. By this I mean that if the exchange terms stay the way they are, then there is no way to settle the debt issue. I insist that there has to be a direct relationship between the way in which the international economic structure operates and the debut of the underdeveloped countries. New formulas have to be found. It is very difficult to solve the international crisis because if the underdeveloped countries do not have the means to purchase capital goods which the countries do not produce and which are necessary for development, then we are in a vicious circle because the industrialized countries will not be able to sell their products. There must then be a way to break the vicious circle. In other words, the issue of the debt of the countries such as our own, of all the Third World countries which are underdeveloped, should not be viewed merely from the standpoint of the debt itself. The debt has to be linked to other elements of the international economic policy and the international economic structure so that a structural solution can be found.

Countries such as our own can negotiate with their creditors in one way or another, but this is not the solution to the problem. The world has to look for a structural solution.

[Question] Does Peru have a way to solve its situation?

[Answer] Our situation, yes. We are working on our situation, but we feel that what we will be able to accomplish is not the best solution or the kind of future solution we should seek.

[Question] Do you think the IMF is an obstacle to the new solution?

[Answer] I would say that the IMF's policy is incompatible with a future structural solution. It is incompatible.

[Question] Mr President, another question. Could it be said that Peru is now searching for a new sociopolitical model and the way to implement it? Could this be said?

[Answer] Well, that is what the process has been all about. The entire revolutionary process has been a search for a new social formula.

[Question] Has that formula been created?

[Answer] It is impossible to arrive at a new formula in such a short period of time. I am even going to give you a copy of the political plan of government which clearly stipulates the objective. The objective is very clear, and it is partly linked to the reply that I would have to make to your question. There is talk here of consolidating the revolutionary process so that it will not fall into communist statism or that, through a reaction, it will not go back to already obsolete forms of prerevolutionary capitalism. Therefore, we have sought new sociopolitical formulas within this process.

[Question] Can those new formulas be perfected?

[Answer] It is very difficult, naturally, to achieve that in short historical stages. We believe that we have laid--if one wants to talk in construction terms--the first stone of an edifice. We could say that the first stone of a new social edifice in Peru has been laid. That would be the way to approach the problem.

[Question] There is the danger that agricultural cooperatives could become instruments of collective property, instruments of new capitalism; that cooperatives could be turned into individual [as published] or capitalist properties. Is there such a danger?

[Answer] Well, we have noticed that tendency in a few cooperatives but not in all of them. In general, we can say that a truly cooperative spirit is being created, that people are beginning to understand what it is like to work in these communities and organizations for their own benefit. Perhaps at first there were certain excesses, justifiable within the context of the social changes that have been brought about in the rural areas and in Peru as a whole. But little by little peasants have been learning how to improve their own organizations. Of course, we cannot say that the danger has been completely eliminated, but we are being very careful that there is no reversal of the process.

[Question] Does not the government want a reversal?

[Answer] Ah...no.

[Question] Finally, as a journalist, I am very interested in the issue of the press in Peru. What is the situation? Why have the government and the class organizations intervened with the newspapers while journalists cannot control them, as it is every journalist's biggest aspriation to do?

[Answer] But you are referring to only one sector.

[Question] Yes, to the newspapers.

[Answer] I do not know if you have had the chance to read the vast number of newspapers, magazines and other publications which are printed here in Peru and which have total freedom to say whatever they want. You are referring to a few newspapers which we refer to as being socialized. Such is the case of EL COMERCIO, LA PRENSA and CORREO. Those are the only ones. But the only thing that the government does concerning those newspapers is to appoint the directors and managers. That is a temporary situation which cannot continue indefinitely.

[Question] Then where is the situation headed?

[Answer] There are a number of alternatives. I could not tell you now what the solution will be because--and I tell you this sincerely--this problem is not easy to resolve. I myself find it difficult. Alternatives are being sought for a balanced solution. The studies we are currently conducting may lead in the near future--and I say may because the government has not yet defined its stand on this--to the freedom of any organization to publish a freely distributed, widely circulated newspaper. That is one aspect of the problem. Regarding the solution to the problem of socialized newspapers, there are a number of alternatives that we are studying, and we believe that solutions must not be far away. We are concerned that people should think that we run those newspapers because we appointed their directors. That is not true. On many occasions you will be able to find articles that are not favorable to the government in newspapers such as EL COMERCIO, LA PRENSA, CORREO and EXPRESO. That, then, is a paradox. How can a newspaper publish an article against the government when its director was appointed by the government? There is no system of direct control, so to speak, over these so-called socialized newspapers with national circulation. There is none. In certain cases the government, which is deeply concerned over certain aspects, particularly those connected with its foreign relations, may make certain general suggestions to the newspapers. Then we tell them: Well, gentlemen, in matters of foreign policy we must be moderate and maintain harmony with all friendly countries. And we suggest this because we want harmony with all neighboring and hemispheric countries and with the world in general. Sometimes we make very general suggestions. But we do not force the newspaper to publish anything in particular. As I said earlier, you can read--and I hope you have had the chance to do so recently--articles published in these so-called socialized newspapers that are not favorable to the government.

[Question] Do the formulas being studied consider the possibility of paying indemnities to former owners?

[Answer] Well, within the framework of the principle of justice, if accounts have not been settled, then, naturally, they should be settled. That is only fair, only fair.

[Question] Is the possibility of turning those socialized newspapers over to the journalists also being considered?

[Answer] That is one of the proposed alternatives, one among several.

[Question] Mr President, my last personal question: If you had to begin all over again, would you do the same things or would you resort to a different formula to implement the Peruvian process?

[Answer] That is to say, if we now returned to 1968....Well, I will answer in this way: I do not want to ask you how old you are, but I can tell you how old I am. (smile) I am 56 years old.

[Question] I am 10 years younger.

[Answer] Then, if you asked me: If instead of being 56 years old, if you were 20, (what would you do with your life?) I would answer: Perhaps I would do something a little bit different with my life than what I did between the ages of 20 and 56, something a bit different... (smiles) Thank you very much.

[Question] I thank you and ask you to forgive me for my very poor Spanish.

[Answer] It was all right. You have been understood perfectly well. There have been no problems. You have been understood perfectly well. I thank you too...and good luck. I hope you take back to your country and to your organs of expression the true and real things.

[Question] It has been a pleasure meeting you, and I thank you very much.

[Answer] So long.

BRIEFS

TIN DEPOSITS--Lima, 20 Mar--It was announced here today that the value of the tin deposits discovered in Puno is estimated at $20 million. Flavio Estrada, chief of the Scientific and Technological Mining Institute, said that the deposits are estimated at 1.8 million tons with an alloy content of from .05 to .08 percent. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1537 GMT 20 Mar 78 PA]

PEREZ: OIL POLICY WILL DOMINATE CARTER'S VISIT

PA261753Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1637 GMT 26 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 26 Mar (AFP)--Only 3 days before the Caracas visit of U.S. President Jimmy Carter his Venezuelan colleague, Carlos Andres Perez, admitted that the differences between the United States and Venezuela "go beyond the price of petroleum." Petroleum, Perez said, is an instrument of the OPEC countries (Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries, of which Venezuela is a member) to bring about a just system of economic relations. He placed the United States among the industrialized democracies opposed to his idea that the prices of raw materials exported by developing nations should be "in relation" to the prices of imported manufactured products. This subject, the Venezuelan chief of government said, will be one of those to be broached during his two meetings with President Carter, on Tuesday the 28th and Wednesday the 29th of March. Petroleum will continue dominating talks between both governments but no special treaty [as received] on the matter will be signed during Carter's stay.

President Perez rejected all predictions about the practical results of his meeting with Carter--the third in less than 1 year--but insisted that the United States should be interested in the development of Latin America. He noted that Latin America plays a decisive role in the leveling of the U.S. balance of payments, mentioning that Mexico is the 5th country in trade relations with the United States, with Venezuela the 7th and Brazil the 12th. "We have a right to more cooperation," he emphasized. The president added that for this reason "it is cause for concern that there should be so much ignorance about Latin America in the United States." He also said that world policy cannot ignore any country, no matter how modest.

Perez attributed the affinity between Venezuela and the United States to the promotion of human rights and the role played by the Caracas government in the negotiations over a new treaty for the Panama Canal to "circumstances of a historic order." He praised President Carter's human rights policy: "It is one of the most important political developments in the contemporary world," adding that the temporary nature of several of the continent's military regimes was one of the indirect effects of this policy.

He stressed Latin America's support for the talks between the United States and Panama for the recovery of the canal by the latter asserting that "from the entrance of the United States into World War II in 1941 there has not been such a firm support by Latin America for that country."

In the framework of the talks between Carter and Perez observers also noted Venezuela's growing economic and political influence in the Caribbean. This influence was tacitly recognized by Perez when he asserted: "We consider the Caribbean fully incorporated into Latin America. We have the intention of lending very firm cooperation so they (the Caribbean countries) will be stable economically, politically and socially."

PORTUGAL'S SOARES HOLDS NEW CONFERENCE, DEPARTS

PA260202Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2309 GMT 25 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Caracas 25 Mar (EFE)--Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares said on Saturday that the violation of human rights in most Latin American countries is an undeniable fact but noted that it is also evident that the conditions necessary for development and freedom in the area are present.

Soares made this statement at the conclusion of his visit to five American countries in his capacity as vice president of the Socialist International. He was accompanied by 14 other leaders--from 14 countries--of the same international organization.

At the conclusion of his 3-day visit to Venezuela and before returning to his country, Mario Soares held a news conference to report on the objectives and results of the Socialist International's visits to Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Costa Rica and Venezuela. He noted that during his tour of Latin America his group was able to talk with leaders of socialist and social democratic parties as well as with political refugees from all the countries presently ruled by dictatorial regimes.

Soares said that the persons accompanying him were shocked when informed of the situation in Nicaragua, Argentina and Uruguay, countries where repression has destroyed thousands of homes and where a state of despair has been created as a result of the disappearances and deaths of close relatives. He said that the situation is no less serious in Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay and Guatemala where human rights violations continue.

Soares said that the Socialist International delegation has made a trip of solidarity and good will in order to learn about the political, economic and social situation of the Latin American countries and to discuss a report that will be presented at the conference that the organization will hold in May in Dakar and at the biannual congress that it will hold in Vancouver, Canada, in December of this year. During our visit, Soares said, we have been able to see that the will of the Latin American people is compatible with a pluralist democracy. This encourages us to pursue our task which is aimed at the eradication of military dictatorships and gaining respect for human rights.

When asked for his opinion regarding the liberation struggle in Puerto Rico, Soares said that his group had established contact with that country's proindependence party but that at the moment the group does not have a definite position.

Soares said that the meeting between Chilean socialist leader Anselmo Sule and Argentine President Videla was not sponsored by the Socialist International. He added that he was not familiar with the topics discussed during the meeting.

Regarding the Popular Socialist Party of Argentina, which is a member of the International and which openly collaborates with General Videla's regime, Soares emphatically stated that the actions of that party do not represent a commitment by international organization, which condemns military dictatorships. Soares said it is merely that the Popular Socialist Party has been affiliated with the International for many years. The guidelines it has followed, Soares noted, will surely be studied during the Vancouver congress. Soares explained that the Socialist International comprises parties that follow very specific tactics in their own countries.

In answering a question Soares stated that as socialists see it, there can be no absolute economic freedom and that the socialist programs include important social and economic transformations that would lead to the direct participation of workers in the national economy through combined and individual efforts.

Soares concluded the news conference by stating that as of today, the Latin American countries will have, in the Socialist International, one of their firmest allies in the struggle for democratic liberties and the construction of a developing and free society.

FOREIGN MINISTRY RELEASES TEXT OF CANAL TREATY CHANGES

PA271409Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 27 Mar 78 pp 1, 12-A PA

[Text of Panamanian Foreign Ministry communique dated 27 March 1978]

[Text] In our communique of 16 March we expressed the government's decision not to make any pronouncement on the Senate's resolutions concerning the treaty on the permanent neutrality of the canal and the operation of the Panama Canal. We said our reason for this was that the Panamanian people had approved two treaties, that is, the one referring to neturality and the treaty on the Panama Canal, and until the Senate decides on the latter treaty it will not have given an answer to the decolonization program approved by the Panamanian people.

We also said in that communique that the government as a whole would analyze the conditions under which the Senate gave its advice and consent to the neutrality treaty and the conditions it would express when pronouncing itself on the Panama Canal treaty. We have undertaken this process. But since the national liberation process is a national commitment which requires that each citizen be totally aware of the Senate understanding on the treaties, the Foreign Ministry has deemed it advisable to publish the text of the Senate resolution on the neutrality treaty without waiting for its official text to be delivered to us through the regular channels.

We are experiencing a crucial moment in our history. Now more than ever, the fatherland demands of its children calm, dignity and a sense of national unity.

Panama views its future with the calm of a nation that is enveloped in an irreversible national process of decolonization.

Let us recall that only peace-loving peoples can be free. Panama has decided on its definitive liberation. We are accompanied in this process by the peoples of the entire world, as was evidenced at the Security Council meeting held in March 1973 in Panama. There the world, in view of the veto of the U.S. delegates, vetoed [veto] the United States for not resolving the causes of conflict produced by the presence of a foreign government on Panamanian territory.

We recommended that our fellow citizens objectively study the documents which are being published today in Spanish and English so that they can assist the government in adopting the most patriotic decision which, as Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera has said, will be within the framework of a vast national consensus.

Foreign Ministry

Panama

[dated] 27 March 1978

Senate of the United States, in executive session, 16 March 1978

Resolved (two-thirds of the senators were present and agreed) that the Senate should give its advice and consent to the ratification of the Treaty Concerning the Permanent Neutrality and the Operation of the Panama Canal, together with the annexes and the protocol related to the same, signed in Washington on 7 September 1977 (Executive N, 95th Congress, first session, subject to the following:

(A) Amendments:

(1) At the end of Article IV, insert the following: "One. Correct and authorized declaration of certain rights and duties of the parties, in accordance with the aforementioned, is contained in the declaration of understanding issued by the United States of America on 14 October 1977 and by the Government of the Republic of Panama on 18 October 1977, which is by this means incorporated as an integral part of this treaty as follows:

"In accordance with the Treaty Concerning the Permanent Neutrality and Operation of the Panama Canal (the neutrality treaty), Panama and the United States have the responsibility of making sure that the canal will remain safe and open to the ships of all nations. The correct interpretation of this principle is that each of the two countries, in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures, will defend the canal against any threat to the system of neutrality and consequently will have a right to act in case of an aggression or threat directed against the canal or against the peaceful transit of ships through this canal.

"This does not mean nor will it be interpreted as the right of intervention by the United States in the internal affairs of Panama. Any action on the part of the United States will be directed at insuring that the canal will remain open, safe and accessible and will never be directed against the territorial integrity or the political independence of Panama."

"In accordance with the declaration of understanding mentioned in the preceeding Article IV:

"The treaty of neutrality provides that the warships and auxiliary ships of the United States and Panama will have the right to transit the canal in an expeditious manner. This is intended and will be interpreted to mean the transit of these ships as quickly as possible, without hindrances, with simplified proceedures and, in case of need or emergency, going to the head of the line of ships in order to transit the canal quickly."

(B) Conditions:

(1) Nowithstanding the stipulations of Article V or any other stipulation of the treaty, if the canal were closed or its operations hindered, the Republic of Panama and the United States of America, each one acting independently, in accordance with their constitutional practices, will have the right to take the measures which, are considered necessary, including the use of military force, to reopen the canal or resume the operations of the canal, according to the situation."

(2) The instruments of ratification of the treaty will be exchanged only when agreement is reached on the protocol of ratification, which will be signed by the authorized representatives of both governments and which will be an integral part of the documents of the treaty and will include the following:

"Nothing in this treaty will prevent the Republic of Panama or the United States, in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures, from reaching any agreement or arrangement between the two countries to facilitate, at any moment after 31 December 1999, the fulfillment of their respective responsibilities to maintain the system of neutrality established in the treaty, including agreements or arrangements for the stationing of any U.S. military forces in the U.S. defense sites in the Republic of Panama after this date, which the Republic of Panama and the United States may consider necessary or appropriate."

(C) Reservations:

(1) Before the date on which the treaty enters into force, the two parties will begin to negotiate an agreement according to which the American Battle Monuments Commission would administrate, from the date this agreement is enforced, the part of the Corozal Cemetery located in what was the Canal Zone that contains the remains of U.S. citizens. Said administration would be free from all taxes and other charges and function without compensation to the Republic of Panama and according to the practices, privileges and immunities connected with the administration of cemeteries outside the United States by the American Battle Monuments Commission, including that of raising of the U.S. flag.

(2) The U.S. flag may be raised, according to the provisions of Paragraph 3 of Article VII of the Panama Canal treaty, in the part of the Corozal Cemetery located in what used to be the Canal Zone containing the remains of U.S. citizens.

(3) The U.S. President:

(A) Must have announced, prior to the date of entry into force of the treaty and prior to the expiration of the Panama Canal treaty, his intention, in line with an agreement with the Republic of Panama, to transfer to the American Battle Monuments Commission the administration of the part of the Corozal Cemetery containing the remains of U.S. citizens.

(B) Must have announced, immediately following the date of the exchange of ratification instruments, the plans to be implemented at the expense of the U.S. Government:

(I) Before the treaty enters into force, to transfer the remains of U.S. citizens from the Mount Hope Cemetery to the part of the Corozal Cemetery containing the remains of U.S. citizens, except that the remains of any other citizens whose next of kin file a written objection with the army secretary not later than 3 months following the date of the exchange of ratification instruments of the treaty will not be removed, and

(II) To take to the United States for reburial, if this is so requested by the person's next of kin not later than 30 months following the date of the entry into force of the treaty, the remains located at the Corozal Cemetery and, prior to the date when the treaty enters into force, any remains transferred from the Mount Hope Cemetery in accordance with the preceding Paragraph (I), and

(C) Must have informed, prior to the date on which the treaty enters into force, the next of kin filing the objection in accordance with Paragraph (B) (I) about all available options and their consequences.

(4) In order to comply with the objectives of Article III of the treaty of insuring the safety, efficiency and adequate maintenance of the Panama Canal, the Republic of Panama and the United States of America, during their respective periods of responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the canal, and always provided the revenues from the operation of the canal exceed the sums required to fulfill the objectives of said article, shall use such revenues only for purpose compatible with the objectives of Article III.

(D) Understandings:

(1) Paragraph 1 (C) of Article III of the treaty will be interpreted in the sense of requiring, prior to making any adjustment in the tolls for the use of the canal, that full consideration be given to the effects of any adjustment of said tolls on traffic patterns, including consideration of the following factors in a manner compatible with the regime of neutrality:

(1) The cost of operating and maintaining the Panama Canal;
(2) The competitive position in using the canal as compared to other means of transportation;
(3) The interest of both parties in the maintenance of domestic fleets;
(4) The effect of said adjustment on the various geographical areas of each of the parties, and
(5) The interest of both parties in increasing international trade to the highest possible level.

The Republic of Panama and the United States will cooperate in exchanging the necessary information for the consideration of said factors.

(2) The agreement "to maintain the regime of neutrality established in this treaty" in Article IV of the treaty means that either of the two parties may, in accordance with its constitutional procedures, take unilateral action to defend the canal against any threat as determined by the party taking the action.

(3) The decision concerning the "emergency need" requiring that any warship or auxiliary ship of the Republic of Panama or the United States go to the head of the line to transit the canal will be made by the nation operating the ship.

(4) Nothing in the treaty, the annexes or the protocol related to the treaty binds the United States to grant any economic aid, military aid in the form of a donation, assistance for security, foreign military sales credits, education or international military training to the Republic of Panama.

(5) The President shall include in the exchange instruments of ratification all of the amendments, reservations, understandings, declarations and other statements incorporated by the Senate in its treaty ratification resolution.

BRIEFS

PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH CENTER--The Ministry of Government and Justice has issued Decree No 1 which creates the Public Opinion Research Center, an organization responsible for compiling statistics on the Panamanian people's response to issues of national importance. The center will also evaluate the effect of the mass communications media on the thinking of the Panamanian people. Decree No 1 also creates a fund--comprised of money received from a $250 charge on each commercial advertisement prepared by advertising agencies to be published or broadcast by the various communications media--which will be used to provide technical training in the area of social communications. [Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Mar 78 PA]

EL SALVADOR

EXTREMIST GROUPS KILL SEVEN IN LA ESPERANZA

PA270345Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2222 GMT 26 Mar 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Mar (LATIN)--Seven peasants have been killed by members of the Farm Workers Union, the Salvadoran Christian Peasants Federation (FECCAS) and the Popular Revolutionary Bloc, according to the Ministry of Defense. The incident took place early this morning in the La Esperanza District, jurisdiction of San Pedro Perulapan, 22 km from this capital. A military operation was immediately organized with a combination of troops and the security corps along with helicopters of the Salvadoran Air Force.

According to the official Defense Ministry report, the seven dead peasants were killed by members of the three aforementioned groups because they refused to join them. Detachments of the National Guard, the finance police [policia de hacienda], the army and the police have sealed off La Esperanza District. Other military and security groups are combing the areas surrounding the district for members of the three groups.

The military operation has uncovered explosive devices, propaganda, knives, fliers and other paraphernalia belonging to the members of the three groups which the Defense Ministry says are responsible for the attack on the seven peasant families, seven of whose members died. The army blamed members of the three allegedly extremist groups for the incident.

Ten days ago there was total calm in this country's political climate. But this calm has been abruptly shattered by this morning's incidents, which have resulted in seven deaths and many injuries. The latest prior incidents had occurred here on 17 March and it was beginning to look as though violence would decrease. On the contrary, violence has returned, this time in a rural area.

It has been reported from San Pedro Perulapan that many arrests have been made with regard to the La Esperanza incident.

LA PRENSA GRAFICA VIEWS APPROVAL OF CANAL TREATY

PA260026Y San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 20 Mar 78 p 7 PA

[Editorial: "Toward Final Solution of the Canal Problem"]

[Text] Last Wednesday the U.S. Senate approved one of the two treaties signed by the United States and Panama concerning a new status for the Panama Canal.

As it was reported, U.S. President Carter and Panama's Chief of Government General Torrijos signed two new Panama Canal treaties in September. Under the first treaty the U.S. Government is obliged to return to Panama full sovereignty over the Panamanian territory referred to as the Canal Zone. The second treaty establishes the conditions to guarantee the neutrality of the canal.

The second treaty was recently approved by the Senate in a fashion which one could very well believe fits the mathematical formula indicating that the order of the factors does not alter the final result. Even though the second treaty was approved first and the first is to be approved last, the result seems to be the same even if the procedure is inverted.

The Senate's approval of the second Panama Canal treaty greatly clarifies the obscure picture with which--because of local political reasons--the signing of the treaties was intentionally surrounded. This time the U.S. senators seem to have taken into consideration a new attitude in their relations with Latin America because, as we have repeatedly stated in previous editorials, the canal is in Panama but it concerns all of Latin America. This concern was well demonstrated when the Latin American countries accepted invitations to witness the signing ceremony of the aforementioned documents. The ceremony, held in Washington, was attended by some chiefs of state while others were represented by top officials of their governments.

In this way the signing ceremony was held in the atmosphere of a summit meeting. The U.S. senators most surely took this event into account to win over their opposition and, consequently, obtained the approval of the treaty by an overwhelming majority. This treaty guarantees the neutrality of the Panama Canal after the year 2000, when it will be turned over to Panama.

The aforementioned approval gives a new outlook to the relations between the United States and Latin America.

HONDURAS

THREE MEXICAN FISHING BOATS SEIZED 22 MARCH

PA252132Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1958 GMT 25 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 25 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran naval command headquarters reported today that three boats with Mexican registration which were illegally fishing in Honduran territorial waters on the Atlantic were seized on Wednesday.

A communique released here identified the boats as El Padrino, Ezequiel Segundo and Pepone. They were seized by a naval patrol boat which had been on a routine patrol.

The boats and their crews were taken to French Harbor in Islas de La Bahia Department, where Natural Resources Ministry authorities will impose the respective penalties which the crime calls for.

The authorities did not reveal the number of the crewmen, although they indicated that the boats were registered in the Mexican port of El Progreso, Yucatan.

NICARAGUA

U.S. CITIZEN TAKES REFUGE IN AMERICAN EMBASSY

PA221504Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1220 GMT 22 Mar 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Excerpts] Arthur (Charington), a U.S. citizen tried for the embezzlement of millions and tax evasion, excaped from the military hospital at noon yesterday. (Charington) had been taken to the military hospital 1 month ago to be treated for an ailment which could not be treated at Managua police headquarters, where he has been in custody for the past 10 months. The soldiers who were guarding the U.S. citizen are under arrest at police headquarters in this capital pending investigation of the escape. James Fitzgerald, press attache and director of the information service of the U.S. Embassy, confirmed that (Charington) had indeed taken refuge in the U.S. Embassy. The attache reported that the authorities of Managua and Washington were in consultation regarding the case of the U.S. citizen, who has requested protection from his country's embassy.

MALMIERCA ARRIVES IN FRANCE EN ROUTE TO MADAGASCAR

PA260348Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has arrived in the French capital from Iraq. He will depart for Madagascar tomorrow.

The French newspapers L'HUMANITE and LE MONDE today carry a summary of the Cuban-Ethiopian joint communique signed on Wednesday in Addis Ababa at the end of Malmierca's visit to Ethiopia. The Addis Ababa papers also cover the visit in today's issues by publishing the full text of the communique. Meanwhile, the ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY stressed a part of the document in which it is noted that Somalia must give up its expansionist plans over Ethiopian territory in order to achieve true peace in the Horn of Africa. For its part, the ETHIOPIAN HERALD publishes statements made by the Cuban foreign minister in Addis Ababa in which he emphasized that the Ethiopian victory over the Somali invading army is a victory of the entire African Continent.

AID TO ETHIOPIA ANNOUNCED BY FOREIGN MINISTER

FL260040Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Cuban technicians, construction workers, physicians and teachers will actively participate in building the new Ethiopia, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has announced in an interview with the ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY on the occasion of his visit to that African country.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON MALMIERCA VISIT TO ETHIOPIA

FL242110Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1902 GMT 24 Mar 78 FL

["Text" of Cuban-Ethiopian joint communique issued at conclusion of Cuban Foreign Minister Malmierca's visit to Ethiopia]

[Text] At the conclusion of Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca's visit to Ethiopia, made at the invitation of his counterpart Comrade Col Dr Feleks Gedle-Giorgis, the two countries have issued a joint communique. Malmierca was received by Comrade Capt Fikre-Selassie Modgeress, secretary general of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, to whom he conveyed revolutionary greetings to Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam by Fidel. During the meeting, the Cuban foreign minister expressed his government's wishes to broaden the cooperation between Ethiopia and Cuba in the fields of politics, economy, culture, science and technology, the Cuban-Ethiopian joint communique stresses.

During the talks held by the Cuban and Ethiopian foreign ministers, the two sides conducted a candid exchange of viewpoints on bilateral relations and important international affairs, the communique points out. Both sides expressed satisfaction over the growth and deepening of the fraternal relations between the Cuban and Ethiopian peoples and governments. Cuba and Ethiopia are united by the common struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, all forms of racism and for attaining peace and socioeconomic progress for all peoples in the world, the communique stresses.

Both sides agreed that the Cuban foreign minister's visit to Ethiopia is of particular importance in further contributing to the strengthening of the revolutionary solidarity between the peoples and the governments of the two countries. Malmierca expressed admiration for the struggle of the Ethiopian people and government, which are determined to carry out a legitimate revolution of great significance for the oppressed masses of Ethiopia and the rest of the world, the communique states.

Malmierca laid special stress on the admiration of the Cuban people and government for the antifeudal and anti-imperialist position maintained by the Ethiopian people under the correct leadership of Mengistu Haile Mariam and his decision to undertake a socialist revolution in that part of Africa despite the acts of aggression.

The Cuban foreign minister reaffirmed Cuba's total support for the Ethiopian revolution, for its territorial integrity and for its legitimate right to defend itself from foreign aggressions, the document points out. Malmierca reiterated the militant solidarity of the Cuban people and government with the Ethiopian revolution.

The Ethiopian foreign minister reiterated the Ethiopian revolution's high regard for the continued economic, social and cultural successes of the Cuban revolution, the joint communique states. Ethiopia also has high regard for the consistent, independent and internationalist policy of the Cuban Government under the correct leadership of the PCC and its commander in chief, Fidel Castro Ruz. The Cuban-Ethiopian joint communique condemns the criminal blockade of North American imperialism against Cuba and demands the immediate unconditional return to the Cuban people of the territory the Guantanamo Naval Base occupies.

The Ethiopian revolution acknowledged the aid being given by Cuba in different fields to its people and other nations of Africa, Asia and Latin America by its sending of technicians and physicians and through the training of students in Cuba, the document points out.

The Cuban and Ethiopian foreign ministers condemned the sinister actions conducted in the Horn of Africa and Red Sea areas by imperialism and its allies, such as stirring up technical and religious differences, encouraging territorial claims, attempting to force the revision of borders, and promoting among African peoples fratricidal wars which serve only the interests of their colonial policies in that area, the joint communique states. Cuba and Ethiopia condemned imperialism and the reactionary Arab regimes for having connived with the Mogadiscio regime in its war of aggression against the Ethiopian people. The Cuban-Ethiopian document states that the two sides agreed that lasting peace in the Horn of Africa will be achieved only after Somalia publicly denounces all territorial claims to Ethiopia, Kenya and the Republic of Djibouti.

The Cuban and Ethiopian foreign ministers agreed that the internationally recognized borders should be scrupulously respected in accordance with the UN and OAU charters and resolutions. Both sides, the document stresses, condemned the concerted plot of some reactionary regimes, such as those of Saudi Arabia and Iran, against Ethiopia's revolution and territorial integrity, as well as their continued support for Somalia's aggression against the Ethiopian people. The Cuban and Ethiopian ministers demanded that those countries cease their interference and meddling in the domestic affairs of the Ethiopian people.

These points were included in the Cuban-Ethiopian joint communique signed at the conclusion of the Cuban foreign minister's visit to socialist Ethiopia.

Referring to the situation in southern Africa, the Cuban and Ethiopian foreign ministers expressed satisfaction over the resolution of the UN Security Council that rejects the internal agreement reached by Ian Smith and some puppets of imperialism. In the joint communique, they reaffirmed their support for the Patriotic Front as the legitimate representative of the Zimbabwe people.

The Cuban-Ethiopian communique stresses the need for stepping up the decolonization process and encouraging the liquidation of racial discrimination in South Africa as soon as possible. The Cuban and Ethiopian foreign ministers stressed the need for a more active solidarity with the South African people who are courageously struggling against apartheid and for national independence.

Cuba and Ethiopia expressed support for the South-West African People's Organization, the legitimate representative of the Namibian people, and stated that the UN and OAU decisions on the independence and territorial integrity of Namibia should be implemented immediately.

In the Cuban-Ethiopian document, they expressed support for the frontline countries which are rejecting the pressures of imperialism and its agents in their attempt to diminish their independence and territorial integrity. In that aspect, Cuba and Ethiopia condemn all aggression that the imperialists and reactionary forces have encouraged against the peoples of Mozambique, Zambia, Angola and Botswana. Likewise, the Republic of Cuba and socialist Ethiopia reaffirm their support for the Angolan revolution under the leadership of the MPLA-Labor Party and its president, Agostinho Neto.

The Cuban and Ethiopian foreign ministers examined the problem of Western Sahara and reiterated their determined support for the strict application of the principles of self-determination as provided in UN declaration No 1514 on granting independence to colonial countries and peoples. The document points out that Cuba and Ethiopia expressed their concern over the situation in the Middle East, which continues to be explosive, jeopardizing peace not only in that region but in the entire world. The two countries condemned the recent invasion of Lebanon and the violation of the territorial integrity of a UN member nation.

In the communique Cuba and Ethiopia demanded the prompt resumption of the Geneva conference with the participation of all interested parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative, in order to find a peaceful solution to the problem. During the discussion of the Middle East problem, Cuba and Ethiopia expressed their disapproval of the negotiation conducted by Egypt with Israel without consulting the states and organizations having a vital interest in this matter, as well as those nations which have supported the Arab cause.

Both delegations, the communique points out, energetically rejected the imperialist interests and actions aimed at linking the Red Sea with the imperialist policy and reactionary Arab regimes. The document signed by Cuba and Ethiopia points out that the two countries support efforts to make the Red Sea a peaceful area without imperialist meddling.

With respect to the Indian Ocean, the two sides condemned the existence of military bases and the imperialist maneuvers which threaten peace in that area.

Cuba and Ethiopia support the struggle of the Korean people for unification without foreign intervention.

In examining the Latin American question, socialist Ethiopia and Cuba observe with satisfaction the ongoing changes and positive reforms that are taking place on the continent, the communique points out. Cuba and Ethiopia support the struggle of the Latin American peoples for the recovery of their natural resources and against national oligarchies, transnational corporations and imperialism. Likewise, the two countries expressed their repudiation and condemned the dictatorships being endured by the peoples of that continent, especially that of the Chilean fascist junta, which has murdered thousands of Chilean patriots.

In their exchange of viewpoints on the process of decolonization of peoples still subjected to this form of foreign domination, the Cuban and Ethiopian ministers agreed to maintain in continued examination the steps needed to take in connection with Puerto Rico's future.

The Cuban and Ethiopian foreign ministers expressed concern over the intensification of the arms race, especially the production of the neutron bomb by the United States. The Cuban and Ethiopian ministers considered its production to be a devastating threat to mankind in general and to the world's progressive forces in particular. In this sense, the Cuban-Ethiopian joint communique stresses, the two countries underline the need for all peace-loving countries in the world to make a maximum effort to assure that the special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament is successful in halting the arms race.

These aspects are part of the document signed in Ethiopia at the conclusion of Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca's official visit to that country.

The Republic of Cuba and socialist Ethiopia agreed that the current international situation and the correlation of forces favorable to socialism, national independence and social progress of the peoples have been possible, to a large degree, due to the might of the USSR and other countries of the socialist community and to the victories achieved by the peoples in their struggles for independence, national liberation and social progress, the communique points out. The Cuban and Ethiopian foreign ministers acknowledged that the current policy of detente is the result of the changes previously mentioned. The two ministers condemned the activities of warmongering circles of capitalist regimes which oppose this policy.

The Cuban-Ethiopian document points out the importance of the movement of nonalined countries for its anti-imperialist policy and its support for the just causes of the peoples fighting against imperialism. The two ministers ratified all principles of the movement of nonalined countries and the resolutions adopted in the various summit conferences, especially those anti-imperialist resolutions of the fourth and fifth summits. The Ethiopian side acknowledged the positive role played by Cuba in the movement and reaffirmed its decision to support and contribute to the holding of the sixth summit conference in Havana in 1978.

Both countries supported the right of the peoples to make use of their national resources and economic activities and the struggle for the establishment of a new international economic order based on the principles of respect for sovereignty and equality.

The Cuban foreign minister, accompanied by his Ethiopian counterpart, made a tour of the eastern part of Ethiopia, paying visits to the heroic cities of Hara, Jijiga and Diredawa, the communique points out. At the conclusion of the talks, the two foreign ministers signed two agreements, one cultural and another on cooperation between the Cuban and Ethiopian foreign ministries. In closing Malmierca expressed appreciation and gratitude to the Ethiopian foreign minister for the warm and fraternal hospitality accorded the Cuban delegation during its stay in that fraternal country.

Ethiopian Version

For the Addis Ababa Domestic Service "full text" of the joint communique, see the Ethiopia section of the 27 March Sub-Saharan Africa DAILY REPORT.

HAVANA QUOTES ETHIOPIAN STATEMENT ON DJIBOUTI

PA261938Y Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Ethiopia has denounced the existence of a Somali plan to annex the territory of Djibouti with the full support of the U.S. Government. An Ethiopian Foreign Ministry statement says that the contents of this plan were extensively studied by Mohammed Siad Barre, chief of the Somali Government, and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Richard Moose, who recently visited Mogadiscio. The Ethiopian Foreign Ministry added that Washington in this way is trying to reinforce the Somali regime, which faces a deep internal crisis after its aggression against Ethiopian territory was defeated.

The Foreign Ministry statement ends by saying that, together with the people of Djibouti, the progressive nations of Africa and all peace-loving forces, Ethiopia will do everything it can to foil this Somali-U.S. plan.

BLAS ROCA RECEIVES RSFSR DEPUTY PREMIER

FL242325Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2214 GMT 24 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Blas Roca, member of the PCC Politburo, vice president of the Council of State and Chairman of the National People's Government Assembly, today received Lidiya Lykova, member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR]. Lidiya Lykova, who is also chairman of the commission for women's labor affairs and living conditions and protection of maternity and children attached to the USSR Supreme Soviet, arrived at Roca's office accompanied by USSR Ambassador to Cuba Nikita Tolubeyev. Vilma Espin, member of the PCC Central Committee and Council of State and president of the Federation of Cuban Women, also participated in the meeting. During the talks, which were held in a fraternal atmosphere, Blas Roca explained to the Soviet leader different aspects of the work involved in institutional restructuring which has been conducted in Cuba.

RODRIGUEZ RECEIVES PHILIPPINES RICE OFFICIAL

FL242315Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2202 GMT 24 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers, today received Nyle C. Brady, director general of the Philippine International Institute for Rice Research. During the talks the importance that Cuba attributes to the cultivation of rice in accordance with scientific and technical methods was discussed. Viewpoints on the possibilities of cooperation between the two countries in that speciality were exchanged.

CASAS REGUEIRO, GUYANESE CHIEF OF STAFF HOLD TALKS

FL251540Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Division Gen Senen Casas Regueiro, first vice minister-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] General Staff, has conducted a round of talks with Brig Clarence Price, chief of the general staff of Guyana's Defense Forces, who is currently paying a visit to our country. Participating in the meeting, which was held in a cordial atmosphere, were Colonels Gustavo (Shueg) and Demetrio Montseny, chief of the FAR Foreign Relations Directorate, and Guyanese Ambassador to Cuba Frank Campbell.

CUBAN OFFICIAL SPEAKS ON MARITIME TRANSPORT MEETING

FL232005Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Bonn--The first UN conference on maritime tariffs being held in Hamburg has begun its final phase. Approval of new and more equitable international standards for users and carriers is assured. The Cuban representative to the conference, Jose Leon Montesino, today told PRENSA LATINA that deliberations among the delegates from 65 countries are moving ahead slowly, but it is believed that an agreement modifying the very old international arrangements which regulate international maritime transportation of goods will be reached.

The unsponsored meeting, which began on 6 March and will conclude next Friday, has as its goal the approval of a new agreement on maritime law of 25 articles drawn up by the UN commission in charge of adjusting and consolidating laws on international trade. Leon Montesino, who was designated deputy chairman of the conference, stated that the project is directed at bringing into uniformity the measures assigning responsibility for material risks between users and carriers because the present agreement is clearly unfavorable to the users and inadequate for the present era.

BLAS ROCA CLOSES PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT MEETING

FL241528Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 24 Mar 78 FL

[Text] PCC Politburo member Blas Roca Calderio, National People's Government Assembly president, has called on workers at local government organs to improve their treatment of the people to salute, from this point on, the 11th World Youth and Students Festival. There are complaints by some people's government organs of the treatment received in enterprises and offices and the quality of some services, Blas stated upon closing the first national plenum of outstanding workers of local government organs. Blas said that poor responses by people's government employees must be corrected immediately so that the people feel satisfied with the attention paid to them. He said that good public treatment and insuring this is a function of the assembly, the Executive Committee and also of every worker of the people's government organs.

DORTICOS ADDRESSES PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WORKERS

FL260028Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Mar 78 FL

[Rosa Maria Hurtado dispatch]

[Text] PCC Politburo member Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado has chaired the closing plenary session of the national meeting of the emulation held by the public administration workers trade union at the Central Organization of Cuban Workers [CTC] building's Lazaro Pena Auditorium. Others attending the event were PCC Central Committee member and CTC Secretary General Roberto Veiga and Mario Machin, secretary general of the union.

Mario Machin read the main report, which outlines the results of the activities carried out within the framework of the 11th World Youth and Students Festival emulation. The report also points out that more than 5 million volunteer hours were contributed by workers in both sector tasks and agriculture.

Dr Osvaldo Dorticos made the closing remarks. He referred to socialist emulation as the propelling force of the revolution and the building of the new society. This task must be directed by the trade union with the support of the administration, he said.

Elsewhere, he referred to the political and revolutionary awareness of the masses which, with their work, made a reality of the ideas and concepts of the new society we are building. In closing he stated that the masses, the working people, write the history books, and urged the participants to move forward the emulation program by incorporating into its real history the party platform as stated by Marx and Lenin.

MILIAN TOURS SIBANICU CANEFIELDS IN CAMAGUEY

FL251615Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Mar 78 FL

[Text] The attention given to economic tasks, especially those related to the current sugar harvest, deeply concernes Camaguey Province's party, PCC Politburo member Arnaldo Milian Castro stated after concluding a tour of the canefields in the municipality of Sibanicu. He was able to learn about the possitive experiences gained in cutting cane with harvesters at night. He was accompanied by Raul Curbelo Morales, member of the PCC Central Committee and first secretary of the party in Camaguey Province. Arnaldo Milian chatted with harvester operators and hauling equipment personnel, who told him that they can achieve at night the same results achieved during the day.

RAMIRO VALDES SENDS MESSAGE TO COMMUNAL WORKERS

FL241448Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1417 GMT 24 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes, vice president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers, has sent a message of recognition to the communal service workers who held their first national emulation plenum in this capital. The letter congratulates the most outstanding workers of this sector in 1977 and adds that those workers not only contribute to maintaining and increasing sanitation services, but also beautify our cities and towns.

Antonio Diaz, second secretary of the National Trade Union of Public Administration Workers, read the record of the work done the past year, in which scheduled completions were exceeded despite resource limitations and the high median age of the workers of this sector. The trade union's secretary general stated that plans were surpassed in street-cleaning, but services are not at maximum efficiency because of lack of technical improvements.

BRIEFS

NEW SHIPS--Two new ships have begun serving our country, the multipurpose Onceno Festival and the freighter General Sandino. Onceno Festival was built in Ukranian shipyards in the Soviet Union and is presently in Odessa. The Sandino is in the Netherlands loading merchandise for our country. This ship, built in Denmark, is one of five identical ships under construction. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Mar 78 FL]

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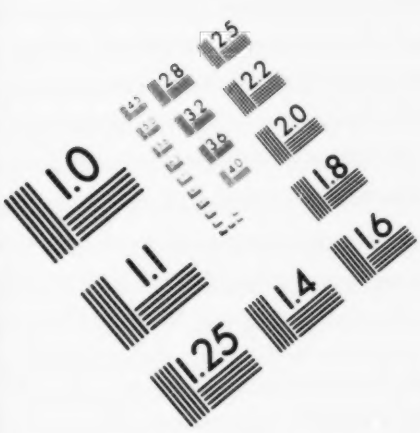

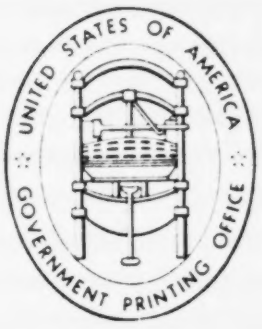

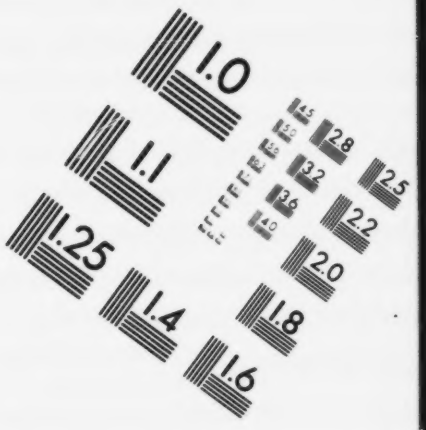

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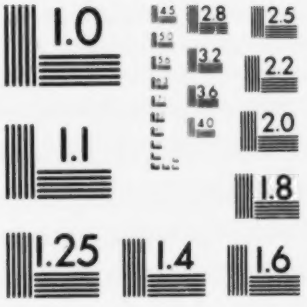

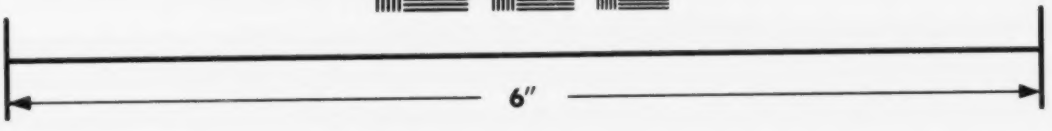

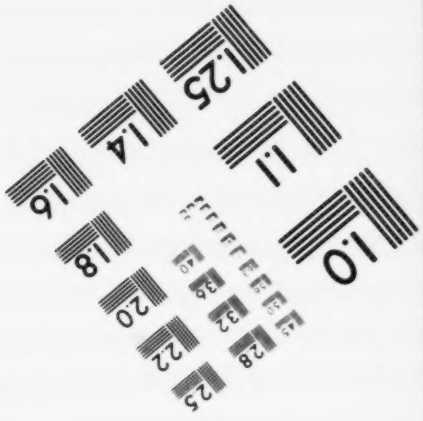

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